

VOLUME 37, ISSUE I

SEPTEMBER 17, 2015

PUGET SOUND PHOTOGRAPHIC COLLECTOR SOCIETY

WHAT: REGULAR MEETING OF PSPCS

WHERE: DES MOINES MASONIC TEMPLE, 2208 S. 223RD ST (TAKE MIDWAY EXIT OFF I-5, GO TO FIRST STOP LIGHT WEST OF PACIFIC AVE SOUTH, TURN RIGHT UNTIL 223RD, THEN TURN WEST (LEFT). THE TEMPLE IS JUST WEST OF THE FIRE STATION)

WHEN: THIRD THURSDAY OF THE MONTH (EXCEPT JULY & AUGUST). NEXT MEETING IS 09/17/15, 7 - 9 PM (DOORS OPEN AT 6 PM)

WHY: TO SHARE AND ENJOY THE COMPANY OF OTHER WHO ARE INTERESTED IN COLLECTING EVERYTHING PHOTOGRAPHIC

MEETING AGENDA: A SHORT BUSINESS MEETING, EXTENDED SHOW & TELL OF GOODIES YOU FOUND THIS SUMMER, PROGRAM: ZEISS SUPER IKONTAS-TERRY LUCK, AUCTION (ONE ITEM PER MEMBER) AND DOOR PRIZE

Welcome to PSPCS's 37th Year

Special points of interest:

- *PSPCS's 37th Year*



Gary has relocated to Tucson, AZ. It has been 90-104 degree F, but he says "Hi"

As I stated last two years, "Our Society is in its middle age. Most of our members are closer to our Golden ages". As we start the 37th year our membership has grown a few but not so many younger middle age folks. Welcome to the our new members. We sadly lost one member, Lee Scheeler. But his camera collection live on in member-ships collections. We are seventy members strong (not are current on their 2015 dues).

Our show was a success. Thanks go out to the members of the Show Committee for their fine dedication. I did noticed a younger crowd wandering the halls with goodies in their hands. So photography is still alive. If you follow Vintage Camera Collectors on Facebook you will know that collecting is alive and they even love to use them (w/out dated film even). We had made available some nice collections to our membership. This affords them the opportunity

to add cameras to their collections. Some even show up on eBay and help stimulate the economy.

Our society has a present on many of the social media sites – Facebook and Twitter. Check us out.

This is your society and is only as great as its members. The writing of the newsletter can be a collaboration effort with the Editor putting it together and publishing it on Harold's wiki. You all have stories to tell or information to share. In this age of electronic info sharing everyone can contribute something.

Thanks to Bob Peters for contributing articles for The Bellows this past year. There are not many photographic societies left in the area. There used to be a half a dozen camera show or swaps in the Pacific Northwest now there are only a couple. So it is up to our members to step up and help out.

I'm looking forward to Year 37 with great friends and spir-

ited conversations on Photographica.

Michael Immel - PSPCS President & Bellows Editor

Additional Tidbits on the Web

A [chart](#) of what camera lenses are adaptable to 4/3 digital cameras. This is courteous of Merle Carey

Western Photographic Historical Society ([WPHS](#))

John Kossik, a new PSPCS member has written an article comparing [Film vs. Digital](#). It has great graphics showing the different details.

PSPCS [Show](#) pictures. Thanks to Harold for keep this site up to date

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Program: Zeiss Super Ikontas

Terry Luck will present Zeiss Super Ikontas at September's meeting. Special emphasis would be on their unique rangefinder system. So if you have a Zeiss bring it to the meeting to share and talk about it.





PSPCS Meeting Minutes

Date: June 11, 2015

The Meeting was called to order by Mike Immel at 7:05pm. There were 22 members or guests in attendance. There were 2 guests and 1 new member present. Gary Sivertsen gave away 4 tables of novelty items and collectibles. Great fun was had by all.

Old Business: No old Business

New Business: This is the last meeting until September.

Camera Report: Bill Adams will give a camera report at the September meeting.

Show and Tell: 5 members brought or told stories about 8 different items.

Program: This was Gary Sivertsen's last club meeting before moving to Arizona. 9 members shared stories about their experiences with Gary.

Auction: 4 items were available for auction. 1 sold for \$1.00. 3 did not sell.

Door Prize: No door prize tonight

One of our new members, John Kossik has contributed a lovely article on Film vs Digital.

Here is how it starts out:

In an effort to prove to myself, my family, and my friends that I am not nuts to lug 6+ pounds of medium format camera gear up the mountainside I conducted my own tests over the last few weeks on the resolving capabilities of various film and digital formats.

The contenders were:

- 1. Sprint Galaxy S III cellphone camera.*
- 2. Nikon D300 with Nikkor AF 35-70 f/2.8 and Nikkor AF 70-200 f/2.8.*
- 3. Nikon F4 with Nikkor AF 35-70 f/2.8 and Nikkos AF 70-200 f/2.8.*
- 4. Mamiya RB67 Pro S with Mamiya Sekor 90mm f3.8 and Mamiya KL 250mm f/4.5. Digital.*

It is a great comparison with picture to show the detail that film holds vs digital. Make carrying around the pounds worth it. (Editor's note)

Contact Information

The Bellows Newsletter is published 10 times per year by the Puget Sound Photographic Collectors Society, Inc. Editor: Michael Immel email—shutterf64@yahoo.com

Information for the Bellows should be sent to: shutterf64@yahoo.com

The PSPCS internet address is <http://www.pspcs.org>

Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Puget-Sound-Photographic-Collectors-Society/125678560778201>

Wiki - <http://fastglass.wikispaces.com/>

Dues are \$20.00 per year (Jan-Dec) and should be sent to Treasurer Shirley Sparrow, 300 Pease Road Cle Elum, WA. 98922. (509) 674-1916, Email: sesparrow9@msn.com



MORE ABOUT THE BACO ACCESSORIES COMPANY

Bob Peters submitted this to Historic Camera (www.historiccamera.com) as a follow-up to their article about the Baco Accessories Co in the [August 2015](#) issue of HC's newsletter. More history of the Baco Accessories Co:

One of Baco's most innovative products was a "clamshell" type tripod head preferred by Edward Weston. When Baco ceased doing business (circa 1970?), Ries Tripod acquired Baco's assets. The product that primarily motivated the acquisition was that Baco tripod head. It inspired what has become current Ries J-200 and J-250 heads. <http://www.riestripod.com/?product=the-j250-head> (like the one pictured to the right). The design and manufacture of the head has evolved since 1970, and the Ries model J-250 head now has a two way tilt, which the Baco head never had. Additionally, Ries heads are now machined (not cast) from stronger alloys than were available in early Baco and even vintage Ries castings.

I'm not sure I can document this, but I believe Baco "was involved with" (may have manufactured or licensed the manufacture of) several postwar American view cameras sold in various configurations under Baco Press/View and several other names. One was sold as the Newton Nue-View http://camerapedia.wikia.com/wiki/New_Vue_4x5. Others of nearly identical design bore the name "Brand 22" apparently referring to the bellows extension.

On the Large Format Photographic forums, <http://www.largeformatphotography.info/forum/showthread.php?16148-Baco-4x5-Press-veiw-camera> Vick Vickery stated, "I haven't inspected the Baco (Press/View) camera, and my source doesn't list any model number, so take this info for what it is worth: In my 1970 "Photography Directory and Buying Guide (by Popular Photography), page 39 lists the Baco DeLuxe camera as a view-type camera in 4x5, handling lenses from 3-1/2" to 15", revolving ground glass back, optional coupled rangefinder, 22" bellows extension, rising-tilting-swinging front standard which can slide fore/aft on the rails with no back movements indicated....Appears to be a very basic camera. In 1970 was \$69.50."

There is no way to know if the cameras being sold as late as 1970 were of then current manufacture or were "new old stock" being liquidated. But, without more to go on, we have to assume that Baco, at least, ceased operation sometime around 1970.

According to the current owners of Ries Tripod, Spencer and Debbie Hughes, while the rights to Baco products are still held by Ries, it is unlikely that products bearing the Baco name will be revived in the foreseeable future. (Anyone interested in the history of Ries Tripods and the brothers who were involved in the early Hollywood film industry and developed the tripod will find an interesting article at the following link: <http://www.magcloud.com/browse/issue/708540>)

As an aside, it is also interesting to note that the Los Angeles area was a thriving camera-related manufacturing center in the 1940s and 50s, probably due in part to the film industry then thriving in Hollywood. Nor had competition from Germany and Japan fully recovered from the Second World War and begun large scale exporting of the familiar brand names that photographers know today, allowing a window of good times for the American camera industry--including Baco.



CAMERA VALUES & RATING AT HISTORIC CAMERA

The Historic Camera website has been updated with a new Community feature. In efforts to provide as much camera reference information as possible to our sites users, a new feature to estimate camera value has and will be added to all camera information pages. In keeping with an open system where members and users can contribute personal information to the website, the system also allows for individual inputs. The goal is to allow a true representation of estimating value by having multiple inputs from various sources. Auction sales, ebay sales, street fairs and personal purchases will be included in the estimate providing a low, high and average value. The site will continue to include a five star collectible rating value without change, except for formatting. The combination of these two metrics will help individuals in estimating overall camera worth. The value input will require the inputters name and email.

All inputs will be reviewed for authenticity and applicability and will only be included upon admin approval. Please see our new feature on the Historic Camera site and if you have comments or suggestions direct them toadmin@historiccamera.com (from HC's June Newsletter)

PSPCS Collection Sale & BBQ Potluck

A few dozen folks turned out for our August 1 sale of Lee Scheeler and Joe Story Collections. Many stayed and enjoy a few burgers and tube steaks. You can enjoy the [pictures](#) from this sale and the others this past year.

